



**BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES**

383 KENNETH HAHN HALL OF ADMINISTRATION / LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA 90012

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VIOLET VARONA-LUKENS, EXECUTIVE OFFICER
(213) 974-1411

October 21, 2003

The Honorable Board of Supervisors
County of Los Angeles
383 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration
500 West Temple Street
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Dear Supervisors:

RECOMMENDATION REGARDING ALLOCATION OF REWARD FUNDS IN
THE MATTER OF THE DEATHS OF MR. AND MRS. ALBERT PATTON
(ALL DISTRICTS)
(3-VOTES)

IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT YOUR BOARD:

Approve the recommendation of the Reward Committee to distribute reward funds in total amount of \$5,000, to be paid from the Board's discretionary funds, to the individual who provided information to law enforcement that led to the arrest and conviction of Stevie Jackson who brutally stabbed and killed Albert and Edna Patton during a robbery in their home in Los Angeles on Saturday, May 27, 2000.

PURPOSE/JUSTIFICATION OF RECOMMENDED ACTION

On Saturday, May 27, 2000, at approximately 8:40 p.m., the bodies of Albert and Edna Patton were found beaten and stabbed to death inside of their apartment in the 2800 block of South La Brea Avenue, in the City of Los Angeles.

On May 30, 2000, on motion of Supervisor Burke, your Board established a \$5,000 reward fund for any information leading to the arrest and conviction of the person or persons responsible for the deaths of Mr. and Mrs. Albert Patton.

On May 30, 2000, Detectives from the Los Angeles Police Department, Robbery-Homicide Division, met with an individual who provided information regarding Stevie Jackson, whom the informant suspected as being involved in the murders. The informant also advised detectives of the location where Stevie Jackson could be located.

On June 1, 2000, the Detectives located Mr. Jackson at a motel on South La Brea Avenue, and based on evidence recovered from inside the motel room, which was subsequently tested and revealed to contain evidence of Albert Patton's blood, arrested Stevie Jackson.

On June 6, 2000, the District Attorney's office filed two counts of murder with special circumstances, and one count of robbery against Stevie Jackson.

The informant testified in the trial heard in Los Angeles Superior Court, as a prosecution witness. On July 28, 2003, as a result of the information provided to law enforcement and testimony during the trial, Mr. Stevie Jackson was found guilty of the murder and robbery of Albert and Edna Patton and sentenced to two life sentences without the possibility of parole.

Upon the conviction, the informant was advised of the \$5,000 reward offered by your Board, but unfortunately the filing period for claiming the reward had expired. Therefore, at the request of the Los Angeles Police Department, on September 2, 2003, on motion of Supervisor Burke, your Board reestablished the \$5,000 reward fund to allow the informant to file a claim.

The Los Angeles Police Department submitted the claim for the \$5,000 reward offered by your Board on behalf of the informant who wishes to remain anonymous. In accordance with provisions of the County Code, your Board must now consider the claim and make a final determination for distribution of the reward funds.

In 1993, the Board of Supervisors adopted an amendment to the County Code that established procedures for offering cash rewards for information leading to the apprehension and/or conviction of persons guilty of criminal acts. Your Board, from time to time has offered such rewards to encourage citizens to come forward and assist law enforcement with their investigations.

A panel made up of individuals representing the Sheriff, the Chief Administrative Officer, the County Counsel and the Executive Officer of the Board reviewed the information provided by the Los Angeles Police Department recommending the reward be paid to the informant. The panel has recommended that the \$5,000 be awarded to the informant.

Implementation of Strategic Plan Goals

Approval of the above recommendation supports the County Strategic Goal of Service Excellence. Publication in local newspapers and posting of reward notices on the County website may encourage persons to provide information to law enforcement which could lead to the arrest and conviction of the individuals who commit crimes, thereby improving the quality of life of all citizens.

FISCAL IMPACT/FINANCING

The Board of Supervisors established a \$5,000 reward fund. Pursuant to provisions in the County Code, the reward is to be paid from the Board of Supervisors' discretionary funds in equal shares of \$1,000 from each member's account.

FACTS AND PROVISIONS/LEGAL REQUIREMENTS

The action recommended is in compliance with the County Code, Title 4 - Revenue and Finance relating to rewards.

A notice of the reward was published in the Los Angeles Daily Commerce, Los Angeles Sentinel and the Los Angeles Herald Dispatch. In addition, the reward notice was posted on the Board of Supervisors' web site. The original filing period to submit a claim to the Executive Office for the reward money expired on October 20, 2000. Therefore, on September 2, 2003, on motion of Supervisor Burke, the Board, upon recommendation of the Los Angeles Police Department, approved the reestablishment of the \$5,000 reward fund in order to allow the Los Angeles Police Department to file a claim on behalf of the informant.

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IMPACT ON CURRENT SERVICES (OR PROJECTS)

There is no impact on current County services.

Respectfully submitted,

VIOLET VARONA-LUKENS
EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Reward letter re Albert and Edna Patton

c: District Attorney
Sheriff
Chief Administrative Officer
County Counsel
Auditor-Controller